



## *Housing Committee*

March 10, 2022

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent 168 towns and cities.

### **HB 5204 “An Act Concerning a Needs Assessment and Fair Share Plans for Municipalities to Increase Affordable Housing”**

HB 5204, would among other things, require an assessment of the state-wide need for affordable housing, and an allocation of such need, the creation of affordable housing plan in each municipality, and require a process of municipality's performance in meeting the requirements.

HB 5204 would create an alternative process to assess state-wide need for affordable housing which is much different from current state statute in regards to affordable housing. Increasingly, there is sweeping decision making on the state level that imposes a top down policy onto the backs of local governments - CCM has come to the table on many affordable housing and zoning issues over the years, including, but not limited, to Public Act 21-29. This new proposed process doesn't consider 8-30j and other affordable housing statute and we recommend building off current statute instead of creating a totally new process.

We also recommend the state should find ways to encourage and work with local communities with incentives, technical training as with the Department of Housing's Affordable Housing Guidebook that was released last year, and addressing lack of sewer infrastructure in sparsely populated communities to name a few. CCM hopes to be a partner with the state in these important conversations.



If you have any questions, please contact [Zachary McKeown](#), Senior Legislative Associate of CCM.